

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4606

November 2, 2022

The Honorable Merrick Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC, 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland,

We write to you with deep concern about the prospect of the Department of Justice (DOJ) weaponizing its federal law enforcement power against law-abiding American citizens — this time to target those daring to question gender transition procedures for minors.

On October 3, 2022, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), American Medical Association (AMA), and Children’s Hospital Association (CHA) sent a letter urging the DOJ to take “swift action to investigate and prosecute all organizations, individuals, and entities responsible” for attacks “rooted in an intentional campaign of disinformation.”¹ Alarmingly, their request strongly implies that sharing information questioning gender transition procedures for minors online constitutes “provoking” violent threats.

The AAP, AMA, and CHA allege that providers of gender transition procedures for minors have experienced “increased stress and fear,” and are “working with local and federal law enforcement” after receiving “harassing emails, phone calls, and protestors” and “threats via social media” following individuals and organizations posting information critical of these procedures. Any such investigation and prosecution surrounding these cases should be handled on a state and local level. The DOJ has no reason to investigate and prosecute so called “disinformation” on social media, nor to collude with the AAP, AMA, and CHA to silence law-abiding Americans who simply oppose gender transition procedures for minors.

Gender transition surgeries are medically controversial and a matter of policy debate. Indeed, these procedures have led countries including England,² France, Sweden, and Finland to drastically restrict access to or even institute a complete prohibition on the use of hormone blockers in minor children, as well as gender transition surgeries.³ For thousands of years, children have overcome acute gender dysphoria without permanently mutilating their own bodies through irreversible surgeries or hormone blockers. Only

¹ <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/american-medical-association-asks-doj-investigate-disinformation-gender-surgeries-minors>

² <https://segm.org/England-ends-gender-affirming-care>

³ https://www.theepochtimes.com/european-countries-push-back-against-use-of-puberty-blockers-in-children_4447684.html

recently have activists, under the cloak of science, advocated for widespread radical medical intervention to treat what England's National Health Service refers to as a "transient phase."⁴

If the DOJ steps beyond its authority to comply with the AAP, AMA, and CHA's request, DOJ would do incredible harm to Americans' freedom of speech and expression, the medical profession, and children and families. Additionally, if the DOJ opts to comply, Americans' overall trust in the DOJ will continue to break down. The AAP, AMA, and CHA's letter comes as the DOJ continues to exploit the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act to arrest pro-life Americans for state-level incidents,⁵ and less than a year after DOJ's infamous memo⁶ targeting parents at school board meetings.⁷ Given your department's recent, numerous, politically motivated abuses of power against Americans, our concern is eminently justified.

We request written responses to each question below by November 8, 2022.

1. Please provide copies of any internal or external DOJ communications regarding the letter from the AAP, AMA, and CHA, including but not limited to DOJ's response.
2. Does the DOJ agree with the AAP, AMA, and CHA's assertion that questioning or criticizing "gender-affirming health care" warrants federal investigation and prosecution?
3. Does the DOJ intend to investigate individuals, organizations, and entities that express their opposition to performing "gender-affirming health care" on minors?
4. To date, what action, if any, has DOJ taken to investigate and/or prosecute individuals, organizations, and entities for their opposition to "gender-affirming health care"?
5. Does DOJ intend to collaborate with technology companies to identify and obtain information on individuals, organizations, and entities that expressed their opposition to "gender-affirming health care" on social media platforms, or has DOJ previously done so?

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Chip Roy
Member of Congress



Michael Cloud
Member of Congress

⁴ <https://www.nationalreview.com/news/nhs-warns-most-trans-identifying-children-going-through-transient-phase/>

⁵ <https://roy.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-roy-sen-lee-lead-colleagues-demanding-answers-fbis-abuse-face-act>

⁶ <https://www.justice.gov/ag/page/file/1438986/download>

⁷ <https://roy.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-roy-leads-effort-stop-ag-garlands-weaponization-doj-against-concerned>

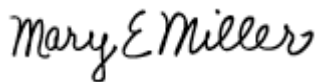
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4606



Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



Diana Harshbarger
Member of Congress



Mary E. Miller
Member of Congress



Lauren Boebert
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



Bob Good
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress



Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



Andy Harris, M.D.
Member of Congress



Nancy Mace
Member of Congress